



CITY OF WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

WEEKLY SUMMARY

1/20/2025 - 1/24/2025



CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 1/21/2025

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL AGENDA & MINUTES!](#) [CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE MEETING!](#)



CITY COUNCIL HEARS COMMUNICATION REGARDING RECENT 3RD QUARTER TAX BILL DELAY

ITEM 9.26

TRANSMITTING INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO 3RD QUARTER TAX BILL DELAY

THE CITY'S CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, TIMOTHY McGOURTHY ADDRESSED THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE MUNICIPALITY'S 3RD QUARTER TAX BILLS BEING MAILED OUT LATER THAN NORMAL, UNBEKNOWNST TO THE CITY OF WORCESTER.

IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT DELAY AND PER THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, THE CITY OF WORCESTER WILL NOT ASSESS ANY INTEREST OR PENALTIES ON ANY LATE BILLS UNTIL MAY 1ST. THE CITY ASSESSOR WILL ALSO ACCEPT ABATEMENT REQUESTS THROUGH MAY 30TH.



CITY COUNCIL ADVANCES TRAFFIC SYSTEMS PETITION

ITEM 8H

REQUEST TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNALS TO PROHIBIT MOTORISTS FROM TAKING TURNS WHILE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNALS ARE ON

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL ADVANCED A CONSTITUENT'S PETITION TO THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE. THIS PETITION AIMS AT PROHIBITING MOTORISTS FROM MAKING TURNS WHILE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNALS ARE ENGAGED.

PETITIONS DEALING IN TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES ARE TYPICALLY REFERRED TO THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL. ONCE REFERRED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE, THE CHAIR, ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC & MOBILITY, WILL SCHEDULE A MEETING TO FURTHER DISCUSS IN DETAIL THE PETITIONS AND WHETHER OR NOT THE PETITION WILL BE ADVANCED.



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1/20/2025 - 1/24/2025

Standing Committee Meetings

PUBLIC SAFETY:

MET ON TUESDAY, 1/21/2025



- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR KATE TOOMEY - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR**
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR MORRIS BERGMAN - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR**
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR LUIS OJEDA - DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILOR**
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL AGENDA!](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEETING!](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **TUESDAY, 1/28/2025**
 - @ 6:30 P.M. - **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
 - @ CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 3RD FLOOR, 455 MAIN STREET
 - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
 - [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIRTUALLY THE DAY OF!](#)
 - City Council ZOOM Phone Number: +1 646 828 7666
 - City Council ZOOM Access Code: 161 363 1913
- **TUESDAY, 1/28/2025**
 - @ 5:00 P.M. - **MUNICIPAL & LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING**
 - @ CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER
 - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL AGENDA!](#)
 - [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIRTUALLY THE DAY OF!](#)
 - PUBLIC SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE ZOOM PHONE NUMBER: +1 646 828 7666
 - PUBLIC SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE ZOOM ACCESS CODE: 161 554 7889

**REMEMBER, YOU CAN ALWAYS LOOK BACK
TO REVIEW OUR PREVIOUS ISSUES!**





UPCOMING *COMMUNITY MEETINGS*

- **MONDAY - JANUARY 27 -**

- **ELM PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 5:30 P.M.
- WHERE: ALL SAINTS CHURCH, 10 IRVING STREET

- **GREEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:30 P.M.
- WHERE: ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH, 236 LINCOLN STREET

- **WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 29 -**

- **HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
- WHERE: WORCESTER REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION FACILITY, 42 QUINSIGAMOND AVE.
- THE CITY OF WORCESTER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS & MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT HAS LAUNCHED A COMMUNITY SURVEY TO SOLICIT PUBLIC FEEDBACK AND INPUT TO UPDATE THE DEPARTMENT'S 2025-'30 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.
- [TAKE THE SURVEY BY CLICKING HERE!](#)

- **THURSDAY- JANUARY 30 -**

- **ANNUAL STATE OF THE LAKES MEETING**

- TIME: 5:45PM
- WHERE: WORCESTER SENIOR CENTER, 128 PROVIDENCE ST
- COME TO THE ANNUAL STATE OF THE LAKES EVENT TO LEARN ABOUT THE HEALTH OF WORCESTER'S LAKES AND PONDS IN 2024 AND UPCOMING PLANS FOR 2025! THE LAKES AND PONDS PROGRAM WILL GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS, LAKE MANAGEMENT EFFORTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS WILL SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR WATERSHED AND COMMUNITY.
- [REGISTER ONLINE BY CLICKING HERE!](#)



Events in the Community

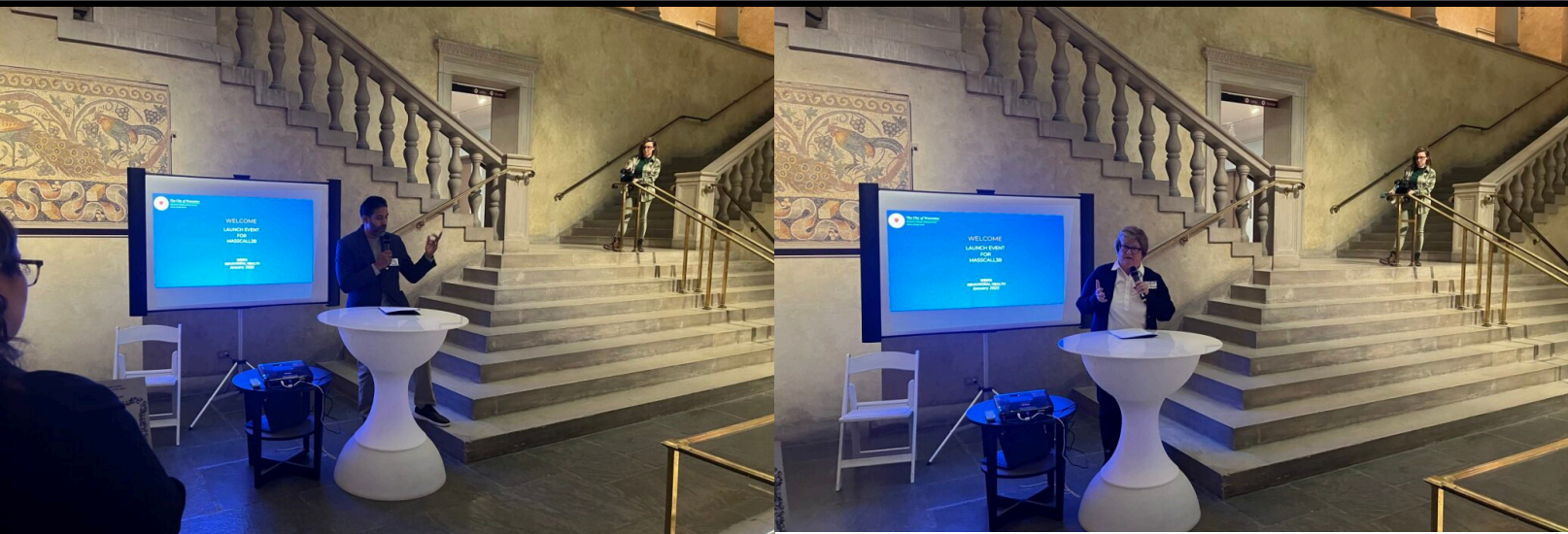


40TH ANNIVERSARY REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

VICE CHAIRMAN KHRYSTIAN KING AND MAYOR PETTY ATTENDED THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY BREAKFAST HELD ON MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY BY ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY AND QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE. THIS ANNUAL CELEBRATION HONORS THE LEGACY OF MLK JR. THROUGH MUSIC, SPEECHES FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS.

THIS YEAR'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER WAS DR. KELLIE CARTER-JACKSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF AFRICANA STUDIES AND CHAIR OF THE AFRICANA STUDIES DEPARTMENT AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE. SHE IS ALSO THE AUTHOR OF THE AWARD-WINNING BOOK, *FORCE AND FREEDOM: BLACK ABOLITIONISTS AND THE POLITICS OF VIOLENCE*, WHICH WON THE SHEAR JAMES H. BROUSSARD BEST FIRST BOOK PRIZE.

PHOTO CREDIT: ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY



WORCESTER DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DPH) LAUNCHES HEALTHY OUTCOMES FROM POSITIVE EXPERIENCES (HOPE) - 1/23

DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILOR LUIS OJEDA, CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE JOINED DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOE EARLY, MAYOR JOSEPH PETTY, AND DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON IN CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF DPH'S H.O.P.E. FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE. THE H.O.P.E. FRAMEWORK IS A PREVENTION STRATEGY FOCUSED ON PROMOTING POSITIVE EXPERIENCES FOR HEALTHY AND RESILIENT YOUTH BY INSTILLING SELF-CONFIDENCE AND SELF-WORTH. THESE SKILLS WILL PROVIDE ENHANCED RESILIENCE AMONG OUR YOUTH TO BETTER EQUIPT THEM WITH THE SKILLS TO BE HEALTHY AND SUCCESSFUL.



Worcester Announces Permanent Winter Parking Ban in Effect Dec. 1 Through April 30



The City of Worcester announced Friday November 22, it's **Permanent Winter Parking Ban** will go into effect **Dec. 1, 2024**, and will remain through **April 30, 2025 (April 1 for residential streets)**. The Permanent Winter Parking Ban applies to emergency arteries, WRTA bus routes, and streets that are critical to the flow of traffic. There is no parking on one or both sides of the affected street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. nor any time a snow emergency is declared.

In addition to the Permanent Winter Parking Ban, a Declared Winter Parking Ban will go into effect on all other city streets whenever accumulating snow is forecast. When a declared ban is in effect, parking is allowed only on the odd-numbered side of other streets, unless posted otherwise, and municipal parking garages will be free to use until noted following the ban's lifting. Parking enforcement—including ticketing and towing—will be active during a Declared Ban, as adherence to parking bans is critical to allow municipal crews to keep roadways clear and safe.

Worcester 311 is the official source for up-to-date information on winter parking bans, parking regulations on your street, and snow complaints.

For the latest updates on winter parking bans:

- Sign up for [ALERTWorcester](#) and receive notifications to your phone or email
- Follow Worcester 311 on [Twitter \(X\)](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Watch Government Access Channel 192

Illegally parked vehicles are the biggest obstacle to effective snow removal efforts. Vehicles that violate the winter parking ban or otherwise hinder snow removal will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Please support the municipality's efforts by parking your vehicle in conformance with the winter parking ban. Back to Announcements List

Winter Parking Rules

Winter parking bans on public streets fall under two categories, **PERMANENT** and **DECLARED**.

- **A PERMANENT BAN** remains in effect from December 1st through April 30th on Emergency Arteries, WRTA Bus Routes, and streets that are critical to the flow of traffic. There is no parking on one or both sides of the street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. and anytime a snow emergency is declared.
- **A DECLARED BAN** is put into effect on all remaining city streets whenever accumulating snow is forecast. When a Declared Ban is in effect, restrictions apply that typically allow parking on one side of the street.

**[CLICK HERE FOR FULL WINTER PARKING BAN INFORMATION
AND TO LOOK UP YOUR STREET SPECIFICALLY!](#)**



CITY OF WORCESTER

CITY COUNCIL WEEKLY SUMMARY

YOUR City Councilors

WORCESTER'S CITY COUNCIL CONSISTS OF ELEVEN COUNCIL MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE MAYOR & COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE, JOSEPH M. PETTY. THESE ELEVEN ELECTED OFFICIALS SERVE AS THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE CITY. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF THEIR CITY AND COMMUNITY.

THERE ARE SIX COUNCILORS-AT-LARGE AND FIVE COUNCILORS THAT EACH REPRESENT A SPECIFIC DISTRICT IN WORCESTER (DISTRICTS 1-5).

IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF WHO YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILOR IS, [CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT!](#)

AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILORS



MAYOR
JOSEPH M. PETTY



VICE CHAIRMAN
KHRYSTIAN E. KING



MORRIS A.
BERGMAN



THU
NGUYEN



KATHLEEN M.
TOOMEY



DONNA M.
COLORIO

DISTRICT CITY COUNCILORS



DISTRICT 1
JENNY PACILLO



DISTRICT 2
CANDY MERO-CARLSON



DISTRICT 3
GEORGE J. RUSSELL



DISTRICT 4
LUIS A. OJEDA, SR.



DISTRICT 5
ETEL HAXHIAJ



WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
MEETING SCHEDULE – 2025

January

January 7 – **Joint Agenda**
January 14 – **City Council Agenda**
January 21 – **City Manager Agenda**
January 28 – **City Council Agenda – Finance**

February

February 4 – **City Manager Agenda**
February 11 – **City Council Agenda**
February 18 – **No Meeting – School Break**
February 25 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

March

March 4 – **City Manager Agenda / Econ. Dev.**
March 11 – **City Council Agenda**
March 18 – **City Manager Agenda**
March 25 – **City Council Agenda – Finance**

April

April 1 – **City Manager Agenda**
April 8 – **City Council Agenda**
April 15 – **City Manager Agenda**
April 22 – **No Meeting – School Break**
April 29 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

May

May 6 – **City Council Agenda**
May 13 – **City Manager Agenda**
May 20 – **No Meeting – Budget Hearings**
May 27 – **No Meeting – Budget Hearings**

June

June 3 – **No Meeting – Shavuot**
June 10 – **Joint Agenda**
June 17 – **City Council Agenda**
June 24 – **City Manager Evaluation**

July

July 1 – **No Meeting**
July 8 – **No Meeting**
July 15 – **Joint Agenda**
July 22 – **No Meeting**
July 29 – **No Meeting**

August

August 5 – **No Meeting**
August 12 – **No Meeting**
August 19 – **Joint Agenda**
August 26 – **No Meeting**

September

September 2 – **No Meeting – Mun. Prelim.**
September 9 – **Joint Agenda / Econ. Dev.**
September 16 – **City Manager Agenda**
September 23 – **No Meeting – Rosh Hashanah**
September 30 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

October

October 7 – **No Meeting – Sukkot**
October 14 – **No Meeting –**
Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah
October 21 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**
October 28 – **No Meeting – Early Voting**

November

November 4 – **No Meeting – Mun. Election**
November 11 – **Joint Agenda**
November 18 – **City Council Agenda – Fin.**
November 25 – **City Manager Agenda**

December

December 2 – **No Meeting – Holiday**
December 9 – **Joint Agenda**
December 16 – **City Council Agenda – Fin.**
December 23 – **City Manager Agenda**
December 30 – **No Meeting – School Break**

Each Meeting convenes at 6:30 p.m. in the Esther Howland (South) Chamber on the Third Floor of City Hall, 455 Main Street. The only exceptions are in the months of July and August, when meetings convene at 6:00 p.m.